

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are currently pending in the present application, with Claims 6 and 10 being indicated as allowable, and Claims 1, 7, and 11 being amended. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 7, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma (U.S. patent no. 6,384,868). This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

As previously communicated, the present invention as claimed in Claims 1, 7, and 11 are directed to different embodiments of a video mixing apparatus for mixing video frames of video signals from different channels of streaming video. As discussed in the present application, a video mixer in accordance with the present invention can mix video signals from different sources to create a special effects video picture, creating effects such as, but not limited to, picture overlap. An additional advantage of the present invention is the ability to mix in three or more video sources, whereas the conventional video mixers typically synthesize video sources from only two channels.

Oguma does not disclose or suggest a video mixer. Rather, Oguma is directed to a video switcher for switching video signals for display, or for “splitting” video images for contemporaneous display of two different video images. The “synthesizer” 702, shown in Fig. 13 of Oguma and as pointed out by the Examiner, simply comprises switching means for displaying a main picture and a sub picture of two different video images on the same screen (e.g., picture in picture display). The “synthesizer” 702 as disclosed in Oguma is by no means a video mixer.

In contrast, the present invention, as claimed in Claims 1, 7, and 11 are directed to video mixers that can actually mix the video signals to form a new video signal.

With further respect to Claims 1 and 7, Oguma certainly does not contain any disclosure or suggestion of mixing two video sources so as to create an overlap effect, by which parts of at least two video images are mixed to overlap each other.

With further respect to Claim 11, Oguma does not teach or suggest a video mixer having video synthesizer that can perform logical operations on the video images to mix the video images.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 7, and 11 are not obvious in view of Oguma.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 2-5, 8, and 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have accordingly amended the aforesaid claims, and respectfully submit the claims as in condition allowance.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early allowance are solicited. Should it advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney of record with any questions.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 393032030700.

Respectfully submitted,

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